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10 Attorneys for Plaintiffs,
11 MOTOWN RECORD COMPANY, L.P.;
12 UMG RECORDINGS, INC.; ATLANTIC
13 RECORDING CORPORATION; and
14 SONY BMG MUSIC ENTERTAINMENT
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17 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
18 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
19 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION

20 MOTOWN RECORD COMPANY, L.P., a
21 California limited partnership; UMG
22 RECORDINGS, INC., a Delaware corporation;
23 ATLANTIC RECORDING CORPORATION, a
24 Delaware corporation; and SONY BMG MUSIC
25 ENTERTAINMENT, a Delaware general
26 partnership,

27 Plaintiffs,

28 v.
JOHN DOE,
Defendant.

CASE NO. 5:08-cv-01651-JF

Honorable Jeremy Fogel

***EX PARTE APPLICATION TO CONTINUE
CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE
AND EXTEND TIME TO SERVE
DEFENDANT AND [PROPOSED] ORDER***

1 Plaintiffs respectfully request that the Court continue the case management conference
2 currently set for July 11, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. to October 10, 2008. Plaintiffs further request, pursuant
3 to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rules 4(m) and 6(b)(1)(A), that the Court grant an
4 additional 60 days – until September 23, 2008 – to serve Defendant with the Summons and
5 Complaint. As set forth in greater detail below, Plaintiffs have just recently discovered the true
6 identity of the Doe defendant in this case. Therefore, additional time is needed to file a First
7 Amended Complaint naming Defendant personally and then to serve Defendant with process. In
8 support of their request, Plaintiffs state as follows:

9 1. Plaintiffs have not requested, and the Court has not granted, any previous
10 continuances of the case management conference in this matter. Moreover, Plaintiffs have not
11 requested any previous extensions of the service deadline.

12 2. Plaintiffs filed the Complaint for Copyright Infringement against Defendant John Doe
13 (“Defendant”) on March 27, 2008. Plaintiffs did not have sufficient identifying information to name
14 the defendant in the Complaint, but were able to identify Defendant by the Internet Protocol address
15 assigned by Defendant’s Internet Service Provider (“ISP”).

16 3. In order to determine Defendant’s true identity, Plaintiffs filed their *Ex Parte*
17 Application for Leave to Take Immediate Discovery on March 27, 2008, seeking the Court’s
18 permission to serve a Rule 45 subpoena on the ISP.

19 4. The Court entered an Order for Leave to take Immediate Discovery on April 24,
20 2008, which was promptly served upon the ISP along with a Rule 45 subpoena. On June 11, 2008,
21 the ISP responded to Plaintiffs’ subpoena, providing Plaintiffs with identifying information
22 including Defendant’s name, telephone number, and address.

23 5. Upon receipt of this information from the ISP, Plaintiffs sent a letter to Defendant on
24 June 13, 2008 notifying him of their claims for copyright infringement and encouraging him to make
25 contact to attempt to amicably resolve this matter. In response to this letter, Defendant contacted
26 Plaintiffs’ settlement representatives on June 26, 2008, and the parties engaged a settlement
27 discussion. No settlement was reached at this time.

1 6. Plaintiffs have since made follow up attempts to contact Defendant on June 30 and
 2 July 1, 2008 to resolve this matter, but were unsuccessful. If Plaintiffs are unable to reach a
 3 settlement agreement with Defendant by July 11, 2008, Plaintiffs plan to file a First Amended
 4 Complaint naming him individually as the defendant in this case, and then proceed to serve process
 5 upon him.

6 7. Given the circumstances of this case, Plaintiffs respectfully request that the case
 7 management conference be continued to October 10, 2008, or such other date as conveniences the
 8 Court. Plaintiffs also request an additional 60 days to effectuate service.

9 8. Plaintiffs submit that their efforts to give written notice to Defendant of their claims
 10 and subsequent efforts to resolve the case before naming him in the lawsuit constitute good cause for
 11 any delay in perfecting service. *See Ritts v. Dealers Alliance Credit Corp.*, 989 F. Supp. 1475, 1479
 12 (N.D. Ga. 1997) (stating good cause standard for service extensions). Moreover, unlike a traditional
 13 case in which the defendant is known by name and efforts to serve can begin immediately after filing
 14 the complaint, in this case Plaintiffs first had to obtain the identity of the defendant through the
 15 subpoena to the ISP. This Court has discretion to enlarge the time to serve even where there is no
 16 good cause shown. *Henderson v. United States*, 517 U.S. 654, 658 n. 5 (1996).

17 9. Because the copyright infringements here occurred in 2007, the three-year limitations
 18 period for these claims has not expired. *See 17 U.S.C. § 507(b)* (2000). There can thus be no
 19 prejudice to the Defendant from any delay in serving the Complaint.

20 10. Plaintiffs will provide the Defendant with a copy of this request and any Order
 21 concerning this request when service of process occurs.

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 23 Dated: July 3, 2008

HOLME ROBERTS & OWEN LLP

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 25 By: /s/ Dawnell Alise Zavala
 26 DAWNELL ALISE ZAVALA
 27 Attorney for Plaintiffs
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[PROPOSED] ORDER

Good cause having been shown:

IT IS ORDERED that the case management conference currently set for July 11, 2008 at 10:30 a.m. be continued to October 10, 2008.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rules 4(m) and 6(b)(1), Plaintiffs' time to serve the Summons and Complaint on Defendant be extended to September 23, 2008.

Dated: 7/8/08

By:

Honorable Jeremy Fogel
United States District Judge